

Application No. 10/016,839  
Amendment dated July 30, 2003  
Reply to Office Action dated July 7, 2003

### Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for producing lenses, comprising:

assembling a plurality of glass rods having a desired length in side-by-side configuration into a single unit;  
cutting the single unit into multiple slices, each slice ~~having a plurality of individual lenses~~ comprising an array of glass rod pieces;  
finishing the slices to a desired thickness and surface finish; and  
extracting the ~~individual lenses~~ glass rod pieces from the slices to produce a plurality of individual lenses.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein assembling a plurality of glass rods comprises inserting the glass rods into a housing and filling the housing with a blocking medium.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 2, wherein extracting the ~~individual lenses~~ glass rod pieces from the slices comprises removing the blocking medium from the slices.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein assembling a plurality of glass rods comprises inserting the glass rods into a plurality of split rings spaced in a row and tightening the split rings around the glass rods.

Claims 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 4, wherein extracting the ~~individual lenses~~ glass rod pieces from the slices comprises loosening the split rings.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein assembling a plurality of glass rods comprises arranging the glass rods in a row in between a mat.

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Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 6, wherein extracting the ~~individual lenses~~ glass rod pieces from the slices comprises separating the mat from the ~~lenses~~ glass rod pieces.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the mat comprises plastic film.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the mat comprises glass.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein finishing the slices comprises lapping the slices.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein finishing the slices comprises polishing the slices.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein finishing the slices comprises coating the slices with an anti-reflective material.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein finishing the slices comprises forming a facet angle on at least one of the slices.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 13, wherein forming a facet angle on at least one of the slices comprises placing the slice in a fixture that orients a face of each ~~lens~~ of the glass rod pieces in the slice at an angle.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method of claim 14, further comprising lapping the oriented faces of the ~~lenses~~ glass rod pieces.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method of claim 14, further comprising polishing the oriented faces of the ~~lenses~~ glass rod pieces.

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Claim 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): A method for producing lenses, comprising:

assembling a plurality of glass rods having a gradient refractive index in side-by-side configuration into a single unit;  
cutting the single unit into multiple slices, each slice ~~having a plurality of individual lenses comprising an array of glass rod pieces;~~  
finishing the slices to a desired thickness and surface finish; and  
extracting the ~~individual lenses~~ glass rod pieces from the slices to produce a plurality of individual lenses.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A method for producing lenses, comprising:

assembling a plurality of glass rods having a desired length in side-by-side configuration into a single unit;  
cutting the single unit into multiple slices, each slice ~~having a plurality of individual lenses comprising an array of glass rod pieces;~~  
finishing the slices to a desired thickness and surface finish;  
coating the slices with an anti-reflective material;  
cleaning the slices; and  
extracting the ~~individual lenses~~ the glass rod pieces from the slices to produce a plurality of individual lenses.